

**Press Release – Don't Trash Grass**  
**For Immediate Release**  
**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DON'T TRASH GRASS**  
**Use it!**

Did you know that a ½ acre lawn in New England produces more than 3 tons or nearly 260 bags of grass clippings each year? According to the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) Waste & Recycling website, that is just the reason you might want to leave those clippings sitting right on your lawn. Let them work for you. Because clippings are organic, they will decompose on the lawn and add the benefit of a natural organic fertilizer and reduce the amount of commercial fertilizer that you need to use. And don't worry about clippings causing thatch. Turf experts nationwide agree clippings do not produce thatch, because they are 80% water and decompose quickly. The accumulation of dead roots and stems most often caused by over-watering or over-fertilizing can cause thatch build up. A thatch layer of more than ½ inch should be removed for a healthy lawn.

Ideas for how to keep your lawn healthy and green, how and when to apply fertilizer, as well as mowing tips and techniques can be found on the MassDEP website [www.mass.gov/dep/recycle/](http://www.mass.gov/dep/recycle/).

The [City/Town of \_\_\_\_\_ ] accepts grass and leaves from residents for composting at the [City/Town's Transfer Station/Recycling Center information, hours and address or Drop-off information here]. Remember to compost and recycle. A little effort...a BIG difference. Visit [www.earth911.org](http://www.earth911.org) for more information about composting in your community.

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